

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for equalizing channel quality differences in a WDM system having N transmitters, N receivers and N channels wherein the following steps are

5    performed: separately measuring in each case a bit error rate of each individual one of the N channels in each one of the N receivers, these being measured in each case at different decider thresholds, deviating from the optimum value, in N first decision circuits; determining the bit error rate at the optimum operating point by extrapolating the measured bit error rates for each individual one of the N channels;

10    determining a Q value for each one of the N channels from the respective associated extrapolated bit error rates; calibrating the N transmitters via a control device by raising the levels of the channels having a high bit error rate and lowering the levels of the channels having a low bit error rate at the ratio of the respective Q value of the channel, the aggregate level of all N channels in the N

15    transmitters being kept constant; and repeating the steps until all N Q values of the N channels in the N receivers are equal.